

Meeting Notes

February 2, 2012 10:00 AM

Live Oak City Hall

Meeting with representatives from:
City of Biggs, City of Colusa, City of Live Oak, City of Willows

Appropriate Beneficial Uses for Agricultural Drains Receiving NPDES Discharges

Attendees:

Central Valley Water Board

Anne Littlejohn
Calvin Yang
Jeanne Chilcott

City of Biggs

Dan Rich
Pete Carr
Steve Speights

City of Colusa

Dale Klever
Jesse Cain

City of Live Oak

Bill Lewis

City of Willows

Greg Tyhurst

Meeting Objectives:

- Provide an introduction and status of the project
- Identify process for working together
- Identify key participants and/or contacts
- Review monitoring sites and accessibility
- Identify level of involvement

Meeting Summary

- Background
 - Background was provided on the current project covering:
 - Why we are here – POTW discharges to Ag. drains, MUN designation via Basin Plan's interpretation of the Drinking Water Policy, resulting economic implications to small communities

- CV Salts stake in the project – CV Salts has a parallel process in place reviewing MUN designation in agricultural drains with the POTW watersheds serving as potential archetypes for future work
 - Previous work done in the 1990s – Ag. Water Task Force and Inland Surface Water Plans
 - Future extension of initial study within POTW receiving waters to broader analysis of Central Valley Ag dominated water bodies
 - Project timeline and scope based on City of Willows permit
- Initial Comments
 - All four POTWs expressed concern about the project timeline. Decisions on any potential alternative plans need to be made early for the design, financial and construction considerations.
 - Live Oak and Willows need to make planning decisions for any potential construction
 - Colusa has loan considerations
 - Biggs current permit is expiring this year and are considering land disposal.
 - Greg Tyhurst from the City of Willows had a question regarding the use of dilution credits at his facility – he wanted more information on why it was not allowed.
 - Action Item: Anne Littlejohn will arrange a meeting with NPDES management to follow up on his question.
- How are we going to work together?
 - a. All four POTWs indicated their continued interest in staying involved with the project. Communication will be conducted primarily through email and phone calls. Representatives from the POTWs will be involved in stakeholder meetings whenever possible and meeting locations will alternate between locations near Rancho Cordova/Sacramento and near one of the POTW cities.
 - b. Primary contacts for each POTW are as follows: Greg Tyhurst (City of Willows), Dale Klever (City of Colusa), Steve Speights (City of Biggs) and Bill Lewis (City of Live Oak). Other potential key participants include: Irrigation and Reclamation Districts, the local Integrated Regional Water Management Plan groups (IRWMPs), Delta Stewardship Council, and California Sports Fishing Alliance (Bill Jennings).
 - Action Items: POTWs will send Irrigation/Reclamation District contacts to Anne Littlejohn. Other potential contacts will be invited to future meetings as appropriate.

2. Review of Monitoring Sites and Accessibility

- a. A list of potential sites was reviewed and briefly discussed.
- b. The need for conducting field surveys and reconnaissance in each area was discussed. Greg Tyhurst from the City of Willows discussed the hydrological complexities in these areas where irrigation districts are involved. Other concerns were voiced concerning the accessibility of sites – sites may be overgrown with blackberry bushes or banks may be very steep.

- c. POTWs will assist Regional Board Staff with access to POTW sample sites and will provide information to surrounding areas as possible. No other commitment of funds or resources was made.

▪ Action Items:

- *Individual follow-up will be done by Anne Littlejohn to obtain more information on who is currently conducting the field monitoring and laboratory analyses at each facility.*
- *Anne Littlejohn and Calvin Yang will to contact water agencies and schedule time with agency and POTW representatives to gain a better understand water management practices, prioritize potential sites and conduct reconnaissance.*

3. Next Steps

- a. Details were provided on the next planned stakeholder meeting for mid-February to review the Draft Monitoring Plan. Calvin Yang provided additional information on the Draft Monitoring Plan, including a discussion on potential analytes to be monitored and frequencies.
- Bill Lewis from the City of Live Oak suggested that trigger points be considered to determine whether or not downstream samples should be taken once the initial receiving water sites are analyzed.
- b. All POTWs want to be invited to the meeting to review the Draft Monitoring Plan.
- Action Item: *Anne Littlejohn will send a Meet-o-Matic email to determine POTW availability for the next stakeholder meeting to review the Draft Monitoring Plan.*